

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed December 29, 2004 has been carefully considered.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested. Minor errors have been corrected in the claims.

Judicially-created Double Patenting

Claims 1-30 stand rejected pursuant to the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over some of the claims presented in the United States patent Nos. 5,825,308 and 6,232,891. Submitted herewith are two Terminal Disclaimers executed by the attorney of record in both the above-identified patent application and in United States Patent Nos. 5,825,308 and 6,232,891. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

THELEN REID & PRIEST, LLP



Dated: March 29, 2005

David B. Ritchie
Reg. No. 31,562

Thelen Reid & Priest LLP
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, CA 95164-0640
Tel. (408) 292-5800
Fax. (408) 287-8040